

## Taking the 5th: Del Norte's McCovey takes fifth place at national tournament

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VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. -- Del Norte heavyweight wrestler Roger McCovey did not get the revenge he was seeking. He did get a pretty good consolation prize, though.

McCovey lost his first match Sunday at the National High School Wrestling Championships, but went on to dominate his second match of the day and walked away with the fifth-place trophy.

Wrestling against Justin Johnson from Ohio, McCovey, the two-time defending California state heavyweight champion, won easily 11-1.

McCovey on Saturday lost in the semifinals to Eloheim Palma, who went on to defeat Michael McClure for the championship, and moved to the consolation bracket. He awaited a potential matchup with Ken Altarac, who knocked McCovey out of this same tournament last year, but Altarac was eliminated by Jose Lopez in the match that led up to a meeting between the two.

Lopez defeated McCovey 4-2 and went on to lose the third-place match to Johnson. The loss put McCovey in the fifth-place match against Justin Britt, who was pinned by Palma just before McCovey lost to him.

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